

REMARKS

Claims 1-26 were pending. Claim 5 has been cancelled. Claims 1, 4, 7-9, and 18 have been amended to clarify the nature of the claimed invention. Accordingly, claims 1-4 and 6-26 remain pending subsequent entry of the present amendment.

In the Title

Pursuant to the examiner's request, Applicant has amended the title.

Claim Objections

Pursuant to the examiner's request, claims 7 and 8 have been amended to overcome an informality.

Claim Rejections

In the present Office Action, claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,629,256 (hereinafter "Ilan"). Claims 1-2, 4-6, 9-10, 12-14, 17-19, 21-22, and 25-26 stand rejected as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,711,694 (hereinafter "Svensson"). Finally, claims 3, 7-8, 11, 15-16, 20, and 23-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Svensson, in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,630,849 (hereinafter "Dellow").

Applicant submits each of the independent claims 1, 9, and 18 as amended are clearly distinguished from the cited art. For example, as amended, claim 1 now recites:

"A method for generating a plurality of clock frequencies over a period of time in a linear manner, said method comprising:

generating a first clock signal with a first frequency; and
utilizing said first clock signal to generate a second clock signal;
wherein said second clock signal is generated with a plurality of clock frequencies, said plurality of clock frequencies including a beginning

clock frequency, one or more intermediate clock frequencies, and an ending clock frequency; and
wherein a transition from said beginning clock frequency, through said intermediate clock frequencies, to said ending clock frequency is performed in a linear manner by dropping selected pulses of said first clock signal.” (emphasis added).

Applicant believes the clarifying amendments to each of the independent claims readily distinguish from the cited art. None of the cited art discloses or suggests the above highlighted features.

In contrast to the above, Ilan is generally directed to a mechanism for generating a particular (“desired”) clock frequency from any other arbitrary clock frequency. Such a mechanism is clearly distinguished from the claims as amended. Svensson is generally directed to the EM effects of integrating digital and analog components. To that end, Svensson discloses a mechanism for generating a phase-modulated digital clock signal. However, Applicant can find no disclosure or suggestion of the above recited features in Svensson. Further, Dellow merely discloses a clock divider circuit. However, again, the above recited features are nowhere disclosed or suggested by Dellow. Finally, Applicant submits none of the cited art, either singly or in combination, disclose or suggest the above recited features. Accordingly, claim 1 is patentably distinct from the cited art. As each of independent claims 9 and 18 included similar features, each of these claims are patentably distinct as well. Therefore, all pending claims are distinguished from the cited art.

Applicant submits the application is now condition for allowance. However, should the examiner believe issues remain which would prevent the application from being allowed, a telephone interview by the below signed representative at (512) 853-8866 is requested to facilitate a resolution.

CONCLUSION

Applicant submits the application is in condition for allowance, and an early notice to that effect is requested.

If any extensions of time (under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136) are necessary to prevent the above referenced application(s) from becoming abandoned, Applicant(s) hereby petition for such extensions. If any fees are due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge said fees to Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert, & Goetzel, P.C. Deposit Account No. 501505/5500-80100/RDR.

Also enclosed herewith are the following items:

Return Receipt Postcard

Respectfully submitted,


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